

The Vault Is Not Enough

SENATOR SHIELDS

Act 2 Scene 3
HAF

The world is ending, at least as everyone knows it. With the Resonance Virus running rampant among the population and having developed an immunity to earlier cures, an assortment of the elite and those who happened to be near them at the time have been herded into bunkers across the nation. At one such bunker, scientists who were involved in the Resonance Project have been working around the clock on a new cure. As the hospital ward in the underground bunker is sealed, all anyone can pray for is that they will be among those who survive this apocalypse.

Oh Lord, please let my children be alright.

As everything broke down in the aftermath of the release of the Resonance virus, you found it more and more challenging to focus on anything other than your concern for your family. Yes, your nation needed you in Washington during a time of national crisis, but your family needed you, too. Every hour that you weren't on the phone talking to the CDC, the White House, the National Guard, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, or the news agencies about the disaster that President Carroll had thrust upon this nation, you were on the phone talking with your children. You stayed in Washington though, because it was there, in the heart of power, that you were able to do the most in trying to keep them safe.

In your heart, you fear it wasn't enough. It certainly wasn't enough for the tens of millions of Americans already dead or dying in every major population center across the nation.

You made sure that your family got as far from people as possible pretty early, of course. Your family had an old lake-front cabin in the middle of nowhere. From what you've come to understand, Resonance only drives people to catatonia, a state in which they die of thirst, if there are a lot of people around. The further from other people, the less likely it is that your children were going to get infected, or, if they were infected, enter the downward spiral.

You could just kill President Carroll. Really, you could. And the whole Cabinet. And every scientist that worked on Project Resonance. They've destroyed your nation and killed more people than Hitler ever did.

When this is over, those of you who are left are going to have to rebuild. And you're going to need to find your family again. For the sake of your family, you know that you'll never let those responsible for turning a promising project into a Holocaust ever be in charge of anything again.